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RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE
OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
AND DESIGNATING MAY 16, 2014
AS "NATIONAL NONPROFIT DAY"

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing the importance of nonprofit organizations and designating May 16, 2014 as "National Nonprofit Day." I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my friend and colleague, Congressman TOM ROONEY for introducing this resolution with me.

Nonprofit organizations have made many important contributions to our nation. Over the past decade, the number of nonprofits has risen steadily, and there are approximately 2.3 million of them now operating in the United States. Whether these groups are working to improve education or to protect environmental resources, they all have the same goals: to enact meaningful change in our world and to improve human lives.

Many nonprofits support science and research that will have a significant impact on future generations. For instance, there are nonprofit organizations that support research to fight diseases such as Cancer and HIV/AIDS. Many other organizations advocate for vulnerable populations across the globe—for refugees, for the homeless, and for our nation's veterans. They educate and teach, as well as engage with local communities to improve the quality of life for all.

In addition to being a force for change and progress, the nonprofit sector is vital to the economic security of the United States. In fact, the growth rate of the nonprofit sector has surpassed the rate of both the business and government sector. In 2010, nonprofits added nearly \$780 billion to our national GDP and employed 1 in 10 working Americans. Nonprofit organizations also facilitate charitable giving and community activism, and the combined donations and volunteer hours of individuals to nonprofits are worth billions of dollars annually.

But perhaps most importantly, nonprofit organizations are founded and managed by people trying to make the world a better place. Whether they are abroad or at home, the work that these men and women do is incredibly meaningful. Without the people behind these organizations—working tirelessly to change the world, sometimes just one life at a time—the nonprofit sector would not be the force for good that it has become today.

Mr. Speaker, nonprofit organizations advocate for solutions to some of the great challenges facing our nation and the world, and they deserve to be recognized for their valuable contributions to society. No matter their focus, nonprofits play a pivotal role in shaping the future of America. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and to join me in designating May 16, 2014 as "National Nonprofit Day."

RECOGNIZING THE CHEEKTOWAGA
PATRIOTIC COMMISSION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission as they are awarded the 2013 Community Service Award by the Cheektowaga Chamber of Commerce.

The Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission was established almost 40 years ago in response to the Town of Cheektowaga's designation as a National Bicentennial Community by the state and federal governments. The founding officers devoted their time to planning a number of activities to celebrate our nation's 200th birthday, including a flag pole dedication, Appreciation Days for the Town's veterans and firemen, and the unveiling of the Town's Bicentennial Calendar. Their dedication demonstrates the pride the officers have in their country, which is both honorable and commendable.

The Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission continues their great work today, giving residents and businesses in Cheektowaga the opportunity to show their patriotism. The group sponsors and coordinates the July 4th Parade as well as the activities and fireworks display in Town Park. These activities bring together the community to celebrate their pride in the United States of America.

The Commission donates their time and talent to projects that benefit and entertain the residents of Cheektowaga and Western New York. They worked with the Town Park Homeowners Association, the Polish-American Festival Committee, the Federation of German-American Societies, and the Cheektowaga Cultural Society to establish a pavilion in Town Park.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to recognize my good friends in the Cheektowaga Patriotic Commission for the important role they have played in our community for the past 40 years. I sincerely appreciate their efforts, and wish them much continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING BIG SURF
WATERPARK

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Big Surf Waterpark, a beloved institution of Tempe, Arizona for the past 44 years, for their designation as a Historical Mechanical Engineering Landmark by the Arizona delegation of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

No other amusement or water park has received this honor, and Big Surf is just the third landmark designated in Arizona by the ASME. It is easy to forget how innovative the design of Big Surf's Waikiki Beach Wave Pool was at the park's opening in 1969. Phil Dexter invented the wave generation process after a 1965 trip to the California coast. He sought to

recreate ocean waves, first building a tabletop prototype for which he applied for patent rights in 1966, and then a 1,000-gallon, 40-foot by 30-foot prototype in an abandoned billiard hall. The Big Surf pool is an exact replica of the model and was built, designed, and engineered by John Hauskins, then a 19-year-old student at the University of Arizona, at the scale of 2.5 million gallons of re-circulating water within a span of 2.5 acres. To this day, children enjoy the same original components for generating waves as they did in 1969, and Mr. Hauskins continues to serve our county in innovative ways as director of transportation.

The innovations at Big Surf have come to define the waterpark industry and signify, then and now, the spirit of industry prevalent in Arizona's Ninth District. I am proud to congratulate Big Surf Waterpark, Phil Dexter, and John Hauskins on their honor conferred by ASME, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their accomplishment.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT TRENT
BROWN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Trent Brown of Boy Scout Troop 120 in Solon, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Trent landscaped and installed a bench and grill at Lake Macbride State Park. The work ethic Trent has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating Trent on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

HONORING MORING STAR BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Morning Star Baptist Church, Jackson, Mississippi.

In the summer of 1925, Morning Star Baptist Church came into existence as a result of a split from Pearlie Grove Baptist Church of